

65937-0002 (Suros-3)

inner cannula moveably disposed within the outer cannula and defining a lumen from an open distal end to an open opposite proximal end, and a collection trap for storing excised tissue, the tissue removal device operable to sever tissue projecting through the tissue-receiving opening and to aspirate the excised tissue through the lumen into the collection trap;

providing the tissue removal device in communication with a control system, the control system operable to control excision, aspiration and storage of a tissue sample in response to a single authorization step; and

authorizing the control system to remove a tissue sample.

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80. (New) The method of claim 79, wherein the authorization step comprises actuating a single switch.

81. (New) A method for removing tissue from a patient comprising the steps of: providing a tissue removal device that includes an outer cannula defining a tissue-receiving opening, an inner cannula moveably disposed within the outer cannula and defining a lumen from an open distal end to an open opposite proximal end, the inner cannula operable to sever tissue projecting through the tissue-receiving opening;

providing a magnetic resonance imaging device to create an image of the target tissue to be removed;

introducing the outer cannula into the patient with the tissue receiving opening adjacent the tissue removal site; and

simultaneously creating an image of the target tissue using the magnetic resonance imaging device and operating the tissue removal device to remove the target tissue through the tissue receiving opening.

82. (New) A method for removing tissue from a patient comprising the steps of: providing a tissue removal device that includes an outer cannula defining a tissue-receiving opening, an inner cannula moveably disposed within the outer cannula and defining a lumen from an open distal end to an open opposite proximal end, and a collection trap, the

65937-0002 (Suros-3)

inner cannula operable to sever tissue projecting through the tissue-receiving opening and to direct the excised tissue toward the storage unit;

introducing the outer cannula into the patient with the tissue receiving opening adjacent the tissue removal site;

operating the tissue removal device to excise a tissue sample through the tissue receiving opening;

continuously applying an aspirating vacuum during operation of the tissue removal device to draw the excised tissue through the lumen into the collection trap; and
storing the excised tissue in the collection trap for subsequent examination.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the step of continuously applying the aspirating vacuum is further defined by drawing the tissue sample into the tissue receiving opening using the aspirating vacuum prior to excising the tissue sample.

84. (New) The method of claim 82, further comprising the step of operating the tissue removal device to excise at least one additional tissue sample prior to removing the stored excised tissue from the collection trap.